



Washington State
Department of Transportation
Douglas B. MacDonald
Secretary of Transportation

May 15, 2002

Benton County Planning/Building Department
P. O. Box 910
Prosser, WA 99350-0910

Attention: Michael E. Shuttleworth, Senior Planner

Subject: DOS/EIS-0333, EA 01-28/CUP 01-11; Washington Winds, Inc.
Maiden Wind Farm - Draft NEPA/SEPA Environmental Impact Statement
Related to EA 01-27 & CUP 01-15

We have reviewed the proposed Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). WSDOT responded to the initial proposed development in a letter dated May 3, 2001. We also responded to the proposed placement of temporary meteorological towers on May 10, 2001. We have the following comments concerning the DEIS.

The DEIS mitigation indicates that overweight permits will need to be obtained from Yakima and Benton Counties Public Works Departments. Overweight and oversize permits will also be required from WSDOT for any hauls meeting the criteria.

The characteristics of two state highways were incorrectly identified. The posted speed limit for SR 241 is 55 mile per hour, and SR 24 is classified as a rural-minor arterial. Table 3.9-1 does correctly identify SR 24's classification.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this proposed project. If you have any questions concerning our comments, please contact John Gruber at (509) 577-1636.

Sincerely,

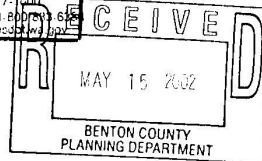
Troy A. Suing, P.E.
Regional Planning Engineer

TAS: rh/jjg

cc: File #22, Benton County (2001)
Tom Root, Area 3 Maintenance Supervisor

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RECEIVED BY BPA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT LOG#: MWDEIS-028	South Central Region 2809 Ruden Road, Union Gap P.O. Box 12560 Yakima, WA 98909-2560
RECEIPT DATE: MAY 21 2002	509-577-1603 TTY: 1-800-545-5151 www.wsdot.wa.gov



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To Mike Shuttleworth	From John Gruber	
Co Benton County	Co WSDOT-SCR	
Dept Planning	Phone 509-577-1636	
Fax 509-786-5612	Fax 509-577-1603	

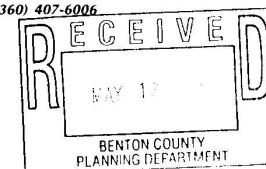


STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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May 10, 2002

Mr. Mike Shuttleworth
Benton County Planning
1002 Dudley Ave
Prosser WA 99350

Dear Mr. Shuttleworth:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Maiden Wind Farm project proposed by Washington Winds Inc. (#DOE/EIS-0333). We have reviewed the draft EIS and have the following comments.

In addition to the permits listed on page 1-6 of the draft EIS the following permits may be required:

Water Quality

The owner of a construction site which disturbs five acres or more of total land area, and which has or will have a discharge of storm water to surface water or to a storm sewer, must apply for coverage under Ecology's Baseline General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activities.

The proponent must schedule an inspection by Ecology to determine the need for a storm water construction permit. Please contact Ray Latham at (509) 575-2807 to schedule an inspection.

Water Resources

Chapter 90.03 RCW Surface Water Code and Chapter 90.44 RCW Regulation of Public Ground Waters (wells). If the proponent plans to use water for dust suppression at your site, be sure that you have a legal water right. A water right permit is required for all surface water withdrawal and for any water from a well that will exceed 5,000 gallons per day. If in doubt, check with Department of Ecology, Water Resources. Temporary permits are usually obtainable in a short time-period. The concern of Water Resources is for existing water rights. In some instances water may need to be obtained from a different area and hauled in or from an existing water right holder.

